CLAIMS

1. A process for materializing a trace in a markup language syntax, comprising:

   receiving a trace comprising a trace string;

   5 parsing the trace string; and

   generating a new version of the trace in a markup language syntax.

2. The process of claim 1 further comprising the act of:

   generating intermediate data based upon results of parsing the trace string.

3. The process of claim 2 in which the intermediate data comprises intermediate

   10 hyperlinking information for the trace.

4. The process of claim 1 in which the new version of the trace in markup language

   syntax comprises a hyperlink to another trace.

5. The process of claim 4 in which the hyperlink comprises a forward link.

6. The process of claim 4 in which the hyperlink comprises a reverse link.

   15 7. The process of claim in which the hyperlink comprises links to a plurality of other

   traces.

8. The process of claim 4 in which the hyperlink corresponds to a communications

   operation involving another trace.

9. The process of claim 8 in which the communications operation is a 1-to-1 operation.

   20 10. The process of claim 8 in which the communications operation is a 1-to-many

   operation.

11. The process of claim 1 further comprising:

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receiving a search condition for emphasizing a pattern.

12. The process of claim 11 in which the new version of the trace in markup language syntax comprises a markup language statement for visually highlighting the trace.

13. The process of claim 1 further comprising:

5   receiving a filter condition for filtering out the trace.

14. The process of claim 1 in which the markup language syntax comprises a variant of SGML.

15. The process of claim 14 in which the markup language syntax comprises XML.

16. The process of claim 1 further comprising:

10   viewing the new version of the trace in markup language syntax using a browser capable of understanding the markup language syntax.

17. A system for utilizing a trace materialized in a markup language syntax, comprising:

a first trace log comprising a first trace;

a parser that parses the first trace;

15   a markup language converter mechanism to convert the first trace into a new version of the first trace in a markup language syntax; and

a browser to view the new version of the first trace in the markup language syntax.

18. The system of claim 17 further comprising:

intermediate data based upon results of parsing the first trace.

20   19. The system of claim 18 in which the intermediate data comprises intermediate hyperlinking information for the first trace.

20.   The system of claim 17 in which the new version of the first trace in markup

language syntax comprises a hyperlink to another trace.

21.   The system of claim 20 in which the hyperlink comprises links to a plurality of other

traces.

5   22.   The system of claim 20 in which the hyperlink corresponds to a communications

operation involving another trace.

23.   The process of claim 22 in which the communications operation is a 1-to-1

operation.

24.   The system of claim 22 in which the communications operation is a 1-to-many

10   operation.

25.   The system of claim 17 in which the new version of the first trace in the markup

language syntax comprises a markup language statement for visually highlighting the trace.

26.   The system of claim 17 in which the markup language syntax comprises a variant of

SGML.

15   27.   The process of claim 26 in which the markup language syntax comprises XML.

28.   The system of claim 17 further comprising a second trace log comprising a second

trace and in which the second trace is converted into a new version of the second trace in the

markup language syntax.

29.   The system of claim 28 in which the new version of the first trace and the new

20   version of the second trace are stored in a new trace log.

30.   The system of claim 29 in which the new trace log is sorted in time order.

31.   The system of claim 28 in which the new version of the first trace and the new version of the second trace are stored in separate new trace logs.

32.   A computer program product that includes a computer-usable medium having a sequence of instructions which, when executed by a processor, causes said processor to execute a process for materializing a trace in a markup language syntax, said process comprising:

receiving a trace comprising a trace string;

parsing the trace string; and

generating a new version of the trace in a markup language syntax.

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